

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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April 10, 2001

FROM: KEN A. MILLER, Director
Department of Public Works - Transportation

**SUBJECT: COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF NEEDLES FOR NEEDLES HIGHWAY
IMPROVEMENTS**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Cooperative Agreement with City of Needles in which the County and the City will contribute \$228,024 and \$93,136 respectively, towards the cost of improving Needles Highway.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Over the years, Needles Highway has become a major North/South route for travelers going from and to Interstate 40 between the City of Needles and the Town of Laughlin, Nevada. Needles Highway needs improvements to adequately handle current traffic flow and projected increased traffic volume at peak travel times. Proposed improvements include horizontal and vertical realignments, widening, pavement rehabilitation and the addition of passing lanes and left turn pockets. On July 25, 2000, the Board approved submittal of a proposed project list to SANBAG under the Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) Call for Projects for the Mountain/Desert Region of San Bernardino County. The County and the cities throughout the Mountain/Desert Region competed for available funding. From the County's list of proposed projects, Needles Highway competed successfully and was awarded STP funding by the SANBAG Board. Consequently, on January 23, 2001, the Board approved a Cooperative Agreement with SANBAG. That Agreement provides that \$2,478,840 of the cost of to improve Needles Highway is reimbursable from STP funds.

This proposed Cooperative Agreement between the County and the City of Needles provides the terms and conditions to which the County and the City must agree in order to receive STP funds to improve Needles Highway. In accordance with this proposed agreement, the County and City agree to jointly participate in the project. The project is approximately 71% within the unincorporated area of the County, and approximately 29% within the incorporated area of the City. The County will act as the lead agency in the design and construction of the project, and will be responsible for \$228,024 of the costs. The City will pay its proportional share of the project's costs, estimated at \$93,136.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This Agreement was reviewed by Deputy County Counsel Charles S. Scolastico on March 23, 2001 and by the County Administrative Office (Tom Forster, Administrative Analyst).

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The total amount of the project is estimated to be \$2,800,000. The previously Board-approved agreement with SANBAG provides that \$2,478,840 of this cost is reimbursable from STP funds. Of the remaining \$321,160, the proposed agreement stipulates that the County will contribute \$228,024, and the City of Needles \$93,136. Appropriations to begin environmental work in the amount of \$10,000 are available in the FY 00/01 budget for the County Road Fund (SAA-TRA-TRA). The remaining project costs will be included in the FY 01/02 budget for the County Road Fund (SAA-TRA-TRA).

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): First.

PRESENTER: Ken A. Miller.

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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